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PCE - ANDY  
J. McMillon  
4/8/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016790/0444

In re patent application of:

Roger SPINK et al.

Serial No. Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: STEREOMICROSCOPE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the continuation filed herewith:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, before the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

A1  
This application is a continuation of Application No. 09/518,856 (filed March 3, 2000, allowed), which is a divisional of Application No. 09/237,839 (filed January 27, 1999), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/718,451 (filed November 27, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,867,309), which is the national phase of PCT/EP95/01186 (filed March 29, 1995).

On page 1, before the 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, please insert the following title:

A2  
**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**